

**AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPOSURE  
IN MALAYSIA LISTED COMPANIES**

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**AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPOSURE  
IN MALAYSIA LISTED COMPANIES**

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MSc. Finance

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**2012**

## **DECLARATION**

I declare that the substance of this project paper has never been submitted for any degree or post graduate programs and qualifications.

I certify that all the supports and assistance received in preparing this project paper and all the sources abstracted have been acknowledge in this stated project paper.

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study construct an analysis about foreign exchange exposure Malaysian companies were listed on Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange during period January 2000 to December 2010. This study extends the prior researches by investigating the effects of major determinants toward the foreign exchange exposure. This study reveals that company efficiency, size, asset tangibility and growth opportunity do affect the foreign exchange exposure in Malaysia companies in general. However, the result comes up differently when those companies classified into their industry sectors. For Industrial Product sector, this study documents the evidence that financial leverage, efficiency, profitability and size of the companies are significantly influence the foreign exchange exposure.

## ABSTRAK

Kajian ini membina analisis tentang syarikat-syarikat pendedahan pertukaran asing Malaysia yang telah disenaraikan di Bursa Saham Kuala Lumpur dalam tempoh Januari 2000 hingga Disember 2010. Kajian ini meliputi penyelidikan terlebih dahulu dengan menyiasat kesan penentu utama terhadap pendedahan pertukaran asing. Kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa kecekapan syarikat, saiz, *asset tangibility* dan peluang pertumbuhan menjejaskan pendedahan pertukaran asing dalam syarikat-syarikat Malaysia secara amnya. Walau bagaimanapun, hasilnya datang berbeza apabila syarikat-syarikat yang diklasifikasikan kepada sektor industri mereka. Bagi sektor Produk Industri, kajian ini membuktikan bahawa *financial leverage*, kecekapan, keuntungan dan saiz syarikat-syarikat ini secara ketara mempengaruhi pendedahan pertukaran asing.

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# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 Background of the Study**

As the world economy globalizes, fluctuation in foreign exchange rates can influence both domestic as well as, and especially, global companies. Variance in foreign exchange leads to the possibility of change in a company's cash flow (Jacque, 1996). In general, companies are exposed to three types of foreign exchange risk: (1) transaction exposure refers to the affects of foreign exchange rate fluctuations on import and export contracts transacted in foreign currencies, (2) translation exposure occurs when foreign exchange rate changes impact the future value of invested resources in foreign subsidiaries, and (3) economic exposure is expressed as the percentage of variation in the economic value of a company resulting from a 1% change in the exchange rate (Jacque, 1996). In changing of the relative prices of domestic and foreign goods, fluctuations in foreign exchange rates directly influence the current and future expected cash flows of exporting and importing companies (Geczy, Minton, & Schrand, 1997).

In previous studies that investigated the nature of exposure to exchange rates found mixed result regarding foreign exchange rate exposure. Nonetheless, recent empirical evidence has demonstrated that many industries and corporations face significant exchange rate exposure. However, most of the estimated foreign exchange risks were exposures of multinational corporations. In general, it seems counter-intuitive for most managers, and even some economists that domestic

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